

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Our Great Men

By Walter E. Myer

THIS month we celebrate the birth-days of our two most popular national heroes, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Each of them served the country in a period of crisis and each proved himself equal to his great responsibilities. Washington came from the aristocracy and Lincoln from the ranks of the plain people, but both were devoted to the common good of all. The nation is fortunate to have as its greatest heroes, men who embodied in their own lives the principles and ideals which we Americans cherish with the utmost devotion.

It is highly probable that both these great Presidents died without having any realization of the place in history they were to occupy. Both had the confidence and affection of most of the people of the nation, but both were attacked fiercely and bitterly by newspapers and politicians. No recent American President or leader has been so viciously abused as these men were during their lifetimes.

Many of the most influential newspapers of the country spoke of Lincoln with bitter hatred and utter disrespect, and Jefferson reports that on one occasion Washington, goaded by slanderous attacks, cried out in a cabinet meeting that he "had rather be in his grave than in his present position."

As the years have passed the contributions of these two Americans have been more carefully weighed. The hatreds and jealousies of their time have fallen away, and all the people hold them in grateful memory. Their names are known and honored, not only in America, but wherever freedom and democracy are held in high esteem.

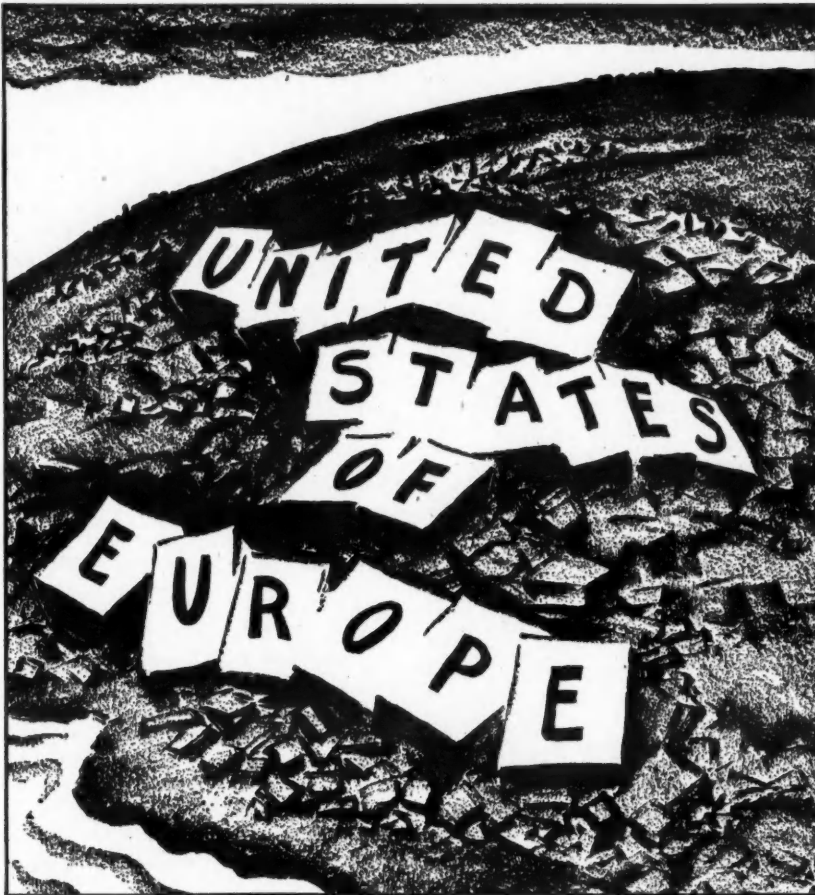
No one can look back upon Abraham Lincoln's life and acts without appreciating his broad sympathies, his generosity, and his wisdom. Lincoln was a kindly man, who felt in his own heart the sufferings of others. He wanted nothing more than to live at peace with all men, yet fate required of him that he be a war leader. This was the most painful experience of his life.



Walter E. Myer

George Washington always put the public interest above personal satisfactions. He said he had rather be on his farm than to be emperor of the world, yet when he was called away, first to command the revolutionary forces, and then to assume the Presidency, he gave up the pleasant life of Mount Vernon to serve his country in its time of greatest need.

It was by no means a certainty when the Constitution was adopted that the new government would endure. Jealousy, suspicion, distrust everywhere abounded. The newly formed nation needed a leader who commanded the confidence of the people in all the states. Washington was the one man in whose honesty, honor and integrity all had complete confidence. His was a moral leadership. He was a hero whose most powerful asset was character; an example for all Americans.



ANY BUILDERS AROUND? England is seeking to form a union of western Europe. Is there any hope that eventually all the nations on that continent will unite?

Plans for Federation

Great Britain Seeks a Union of Western Europe, While the Russians Oppose Bulgarian Plan for Eastern Union

EUROPE is astir with schemes and plans, some of which may deeply affect the future of that continent and the world. One of the most important of current developments is a movement toward the bringing together of nations in large unions or federations. Powerful efforts are being made in that direction.

At the same time, some of the events of the day are tending to hold nations apart and to make cooperation more difficult. Recent news from Europe brings evidence of movements in both directions.

Since the end of the war the nations of eastern Europe have been drawing more closely together. These nations—Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia—are under the control of Russia. So completely does Russia dominate their policies that they can scarcely be called independent states.

Late last month, however, there were indications that these Russian satellites might try to do something for themselves. Premier Dimitrov of Bulgaria suggested that they all join together in a confederation or customs union.

If this were done, all tariffs and other trade barriers would be removed. These nations would carry on business freely with one another and cooperate

in every possible way. Such is the goal of those leaders who are seeking a union of eastern Europe.

The proposed federation would bring together six countries, with populations varying from 7 million to 23 million. The nations standing together would have a population of 82 million. Instead of 6 small countries there would be a federation with a population as great as that of pre-war Germany—a population nearly equal to that of France and Great Britain combined.

A few days after Premier Dimitrov had suggested this step toward eastern European union, Russia let it be known that she did not like the plan. *Pravda*, an official Russian newspaper, flatly opposed it.

It is easy to see why Russia might take this position. So long as she deals with a number of separate small countries, she can control each one easily. If, however, these small countries should join together in a federation, they would become strong enough that Russia could not control them so easily.

It appears, therefore, that the eastern European movement for union has been nipped in the bud, but efforts in that direction may later be resumed. Meanwhile, under Russian or-

(Concluded on page 6)

Military Men in Government Jobs

Dispute Is Raised Over Having Officers Named to Fill Key Public Posts

AT the end of a war, the civilian population of a victorious nation is justly grateful to the country's military leaders. These men have proved their ability in time of crisis, and they are widely known for their wartime roles. The natural tendency is to continue relying on them in peace.

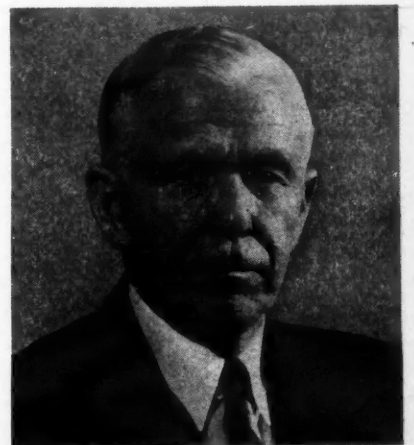
This pattern has often been followed in the United States after the successful conclusion of a war, and today there are a greater-than-average number of men trained in the military way of life holding key civilian positions. General George Marshall is, of course, an outstanding example. Other high officers in the armed forces have been named as ambassadors to foreign countries—Vice Admiral Alan Kirk to Belgium, Lieutenant General Bedell Smith to Russia, Brigadier General Frank Hines to Panama. Some persons are alarmed at this trend, while others believe that it is normal in a time like the present.

Recently the controversy over military men in civilian posts was sharpened. President Truman sought to have the Senate approve his appointment of Major General Laurence Kuter of the Air Force as chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board. A committee refused to recommend approval and the appointment did not pass.

The main argument in this issue is not over the men's fitness for the particular jobs. Few observers question the ability and integrity of the military leaders in high civilian jobs.

The real issue at the center of the debate is whether or not we can maintain our customary civilian way of life if key federal positions are filled with men who have been trained for careers in the Army and Navy. In the paragraphs that follow, THE AMERICAN OBSERVER presents the various shades of opinion that have been expressed

(Concluded on page 2)



GEORGE MARSHALL, as Secretary of State, is the Number One military man in a civilian governmental post.

Military Men

(Concluded from page 1)

on this issue during the recent weeks:

"The Military Move In," by Hanson W. Baldwin in *Harper's Magazine*.

Some wise man once wrote that each victorious war costs us a few more of our liberties, and today the growing influence of the military in American life is dangerous to our democratic rights. Of course, there is nothing wrong in the appointment of individual military figures to high civilian posts. Most of the men now in such jobs are good public servants.

Taken as a group, however, they represent a pattern. They have in common the habit of command and discipline and the mental outlook of years of military training.

Even outside of the government, the military influence in our daily affairs has become tremendous. Many good scientists are being drawn into work on the development of weapons by offers of high salaries. They are leaving the jobs which offer freedom of scientific research—once one of our basic freedoms.

Through Army and Navy programs for education, the military can eventually exert considerable influence on educational policies.



LAURENCE KUTER, an Air Force officer whose appointment to a civilian post was turned down by the Senate.

Industry has also been invaded by the military. Orders for the armed forces still make up a large part of the business of many firms and these firms will naturally be influenced by the armed services.

Wherever the problem is met, it is the age-old conflict between security and liberty. The solution lies in a compromise—a balancing of security and democratic rights. We need military strength in this uncertain world, but it must remain subordinate to civilian authority.

General Dwight Eisenhower's statement in which he said he would not be a candidate for the Presidency.

Military power must be subordinated to civilian authority, and, unless there are very strong reasons to the contrary, lifelong professional soldiers should not seek high political office. This truth can be applied in the other direction. Military commanders should not be selected with an eye to their possibilities in the political field.

Politics is a serious, complicated, and noble profession. There is today no lack of civilians fitted by training and talent for national leadership. There is no reason for our bringing into this field men whose lives have

been spent in the military forces.

Editorial comment from the *Richmond, Virginia, Times-Dispatch*.

President Truman's request that Major General Laurence Kuter be allowed to serve as chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, while retaining his status in the Air Force, was rightly rejected by the Senate committee. This should warn Mr. Truman to pick appointees from civilian ranks.

The best of the generals and admirals who are now in federal posts are well-trained administrators with the ability to master new fields of interest with amazing rapidity. Others, though, find it less easy to get away from military patterns of thought and behavior. They think and act along military lines, and are unsuited for civilian administrative jobs.

Editorial comment from the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Generals and admirals now fill many civilian jobs in government service.



BEVELL SMITH, a military leader in the U. S. diplomatic service

The Senate committee's action in refusing to recommend approval of Major General Kuter to the Civil Aeronautics Board indicates that the lawmakers think the trend toward the military must cease.

The question arises, then, as to why Mr. Truman has appointed so many persons from the armed services to civilian posts. The bald unflattering fact is that once the shooting war stopped, there was a stampede of executives out of government jobs back to high-salaried places in business and industry. The generals and admirals have furnished the only quickly available source of men with proved ability.

The problem is thus deeper than one of having military men in civilian posts. Until Americans are willing to pay their major public servants more adequately, and to look upon public service with respect, they will never get to the heart of the matter.

Editorial comment from the *Louisville, Kentucky, Courier-Journal*.

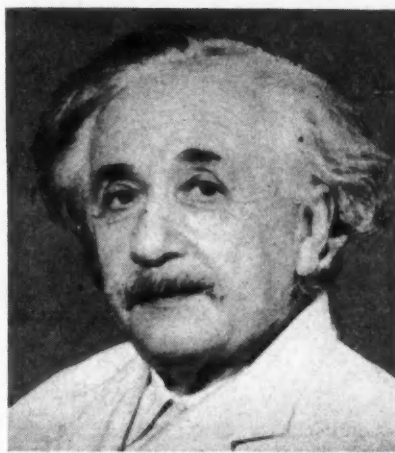
Reports that discuss the trend toward increasing reliance on military men in civilian government offices often exaggerate the picture. Some men are listed with the implication that they are professional soldiers when, in fact, they are not. For example, Carl Gray, Jr., head of the Veterans Administration, is referred to as a military man. Actually he has spent his life in the railroad business, and patriotically put on a uniform to serve as a transportation officer in the war. There are several other men who could be mentioned to illustrate this point.

We do think, however, it is time Mr. Truman took note of the trend and resolved to stop it. He should recall the words of General Marshall when he returned from China:

"Though I speak as a soldier, I must deplore the influence of the military. Their dominance accentuates the weakness of civil government in China."

Editorial comment in the *Washington, D. C., Evening Star*.

If this were truly a peaceful world there might be some basis for fear about the employment of military men in civilian posts. Persons who express this view fail to realize that we are not yet at peace.



ALBERT EINSTEIN, outstanding scientist who protests against the growing influence of the military in American civilian life.

Critics of the President's military appointments are trying to persuade the American people that we have no one to fear except our own leaders. They would have us throw these men out of important posts simply because they are military men. They will not face the fact that the times are grave, and that we must have in posts of responsibility the best men available, whether their backgrounds are in military or civilian lines.

Address by Major General Manton Eddy, formerly Chief of Information, Department of the Army.

It has always been an unhappy custom in our country to snipe at the military in times of peace. This suspicion dates back to conditions in Europe that first led to emigration to America. Fundamentally, however, the very character and nature of our professional soldier and sailor make



MANTON EDDY, a major general who believes military and civilian ideals of democracy are the same.

the "fear of military domination" absurd. West Point and Annapolis both cherish and practice the democratic creed of our country. The graduates of these schools are a cross section of American leadership and ideals. The same is true of our reserve officers. The average American officer is no more "militaristic" than is the average civilian.

"The 'Military Mind,'" by Ernest K. Lindley in *Newsweek*.

Much has been said lately about the "military mind" and the expanding influence of professional officers, but does anyone in his right mind think there is any threat to our system in having George Marshall as Secretary of State?

The truth is, the war demonstrated that the armed services had a reservoir of professional officers of superior ability. Many of them have been snapped up by private industry. There are many left who could serve the government.

It is past time to stop reviling the professional soldiers who will accept tough non-military jobs that are spurned by civilians. We must remember that they are fellow citizens who went to grade and high school with us, and were taught to understand and respect the American system as well as, if not better than, most of us.

SMILES

Reporter: "Do you ever talk in your sleep?"

College Professor: "No, but I often talk in other people's."

"I wonder what causes the flight of time?"

"It is probably urged on by the spur of the moment."

The right of free speech is precious, but no more so than the right not to listen to it if you don't want to.

You never see wooden Indians in front of cigar stores any more. They're all in department stores as complaint managers now.

It seems as though the politicians just can't seem to get together for a good fireside chat without trying to push each other in.

Woman Driver: "Can you fix this fender so my husband will never know I bent it?"

Garage Mechanic: "No, but I can fix it so that you can ask him in a few days how he bent it."

Perhaps the reason why it is almost impossible to get a newspaperman to write a letter is that it has a circulation of only 1.

If the 82,000,000 rouge compacts sold in the United States in a year were laid end to end, it would save dropping them in darkened movies.

Toothpaste is advertised to do so many things it seems a shame just to brush your teeth with it.



HENDERSON IN SATURDAY EVENING POST
"Now here's a nice steak for only two dollars"

Switzerland Attracts Tourists the Year Around

Her Peace-Loving People Have Found a Way of Life Envied by Outsiders

ST. MORITZ, in southeastern Switzerland, where the Winter Olympic Games have been taking place during recent days, is a famous resort. Located in the magnificent Alps, it is one of the many places visited by travelers who come to view Switzerland's mountain scenery, enjoy her picturesque towns and cities, and feel the invigorating climate. Swiss authorities report that the tourist trade, which practically disappeared during the war, is reviving rapidly.

Switzerland, covering about half as much territory as does South Carolina, is one of the most mountainous lands in the world. The Alps, with peaks

"Scenery," someone has commented, "is Switzerland's only natural resource." This statement is not quite true. Rushing mountain streams provide abundant hydroelectric power. Moreover, among the jagged peaks and ridges there are valleys in which crops of grain and potatoes can be raised. Meadows and pastures on the mountain-sides feed cattle and goats. Swiss dairy products, provided by these animals, are used in many countries.

As a whole, though, Switzerland is not able to raise enough food for her 4¼ million people. She buys large quantities of grain and other food products from abroad. Money to purchase these comes from the sale of manufactured goods.

Switzerland is famous for lace, fine fabrics, watches, clocks, and jewelry—items whose value comes chiefly from the high degree of skill with which they are made. Thus the Swiss people, with a comparatively small amount of raw materials, produce goods that bring high prices and, in normal times, make their country prosperous.

The Swiss won their freedom from Austria several centuries ago. Great legends, including that of William Tell, are built around this struggle for independence. Today the Swiss central and provincial governments are highly democratic. The nation contains 22 states, or cantons, each of which has a great deal of control over matters of local interest.



SWITZERLAND, with its snow and its mountainous terrain, is an ideal place for winter sports. The Winter Olympics have been held there recently.

Nearly three-fourths of the Swiss people speak German; about a fourth speak French; and some speak Italian. Through loyalty to Switzerland they are proving that people of different languages and customs can live peacefully together.

The nation has a long tradition of neutrality. Although bounded by France, Germany, Austria, and Italy—nations involved in frequent conflicts—Switzerland has not been at war since the time of Napoleon. Dur-

ing World War II, she was for a time surrounded by German-occupied territory, and was forced to trade almost exclusively with the Germans. But, because the people of Switzerland love democracy and freedom, there was strong sympathy for Britain, America, and other opponents of the Axis.

"For six days a week we had to work for the Nazis," commented one Swiss official recently, "but on the seventh day, we prayed for the Allies." —By THOMAS K. MYER.



JOHNSON

reaching about three miles above sea level, cover the southern and central parts of the country. In the northwest is a less lofty range, the Jura. The land in northeastern Switzerland, near Germany, is not quite so mountainous as is the rest of the country.

Career Prospects for Tomorrow - - - Nurses Needed

ALTHOUGH there are now more nurses actively engaged in the profession than ever before, the nation is still faced with an acute shortage of trained workers in this field. New hospitals have been built, many of them for the veterans of World War II. Hours of duty for nurses have been shortened. Furthermore, the scope of the profession has been enlarged so that trained persons are now employed in public health work, in industrial firms, and in educational positions connected with the field.

All this expansion means that nursing offers exceptionally good vocational opportunities for those who are qualified for it. Good health, accuracy, a liking for people, and good judgment are perhaps the four outstanding characteristics that a nurse must have. Many more women than men are in this field, but an increasing number of men are entering it.

A high school diploma is the one basic educational requirement for persons looking forward to a career in nursing. The high school course required by most nursing schools is similar to that required for entrance by the standard colleges. It includes the study of English, science, mathematics, history, language, and civics.

There are two types of nursing schools—those connected with hospitals and those associated with colleges or universities. The hospital schools usually admit students who have successfully completed the high school course of study outlined above. The collegiate nursing schools usually require two years of college study in

addition to the high school diploma.

Two schools of nursing—that at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, and the one at Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio—require a college degree for admission, although Western Reserve also has a course for persons with two years of college.

A graduate of a hospital nursing school receives a diploma in nursing, while a person who completes the course at a collegiate school earns the diploma and a bachelor's degree. After graduating from either type of school, a person must pass an examination given by the state before he can begin to practice the profession.

A student who is considering this field should select a training school with great care. The points to check in investigating the merits of various schools are listed in a pamphlet entitled "Nursing Is a Great Profession," which can be secured from the Nursing Information Bureau, 1790 Broadway, New York 19, New York. This organization has other publications which are distributed to prospective students of nursing.

Graduate nurses may choose from among several different branches of the profession. They may become institutional nurses and work in a hospital; or they may prefer to do pri-

vate nursing and care for only one patient at a time. There are further opportunities for nurses in the field of public health, with industrial firms, and in nursing education.

Salaries vary somewhat according to the branch that one chooses. According to recent estimates, earnings of nurses on general hospital duty range from \$180 to \$205 per month. Nurses in industry earn from \$170 to \$230 per month. Those who teach in the field make from \$184 to \$258 per month, and public health nurses earn between \$164 and \$221 per month.

The top salaries earned by persons in responsible jobs pay from \$6,000 to \$8,000 per year.

Students who are considering a career in the field of nursing should weigh the advantages against the disadvantages. The nurse is a member of a well-developed profession, and as such he is widely respected. The outlook for job opportunities is good, and nurses can usually find work in whatever communities they want to live. Nurses meet many interesting people, and are able to use their training in their own homes.

On the other hand, the work may be physically tiring, and patients are not always as considerate of the nurse as they might be. Then, too, the nurse must be stouthearted in dealing with patients who are victims of painful illnesses or serious accidents.

In addition to writing to the Nursing Information Bureau, students can secure other details from their local hospitals or schools of nursing.

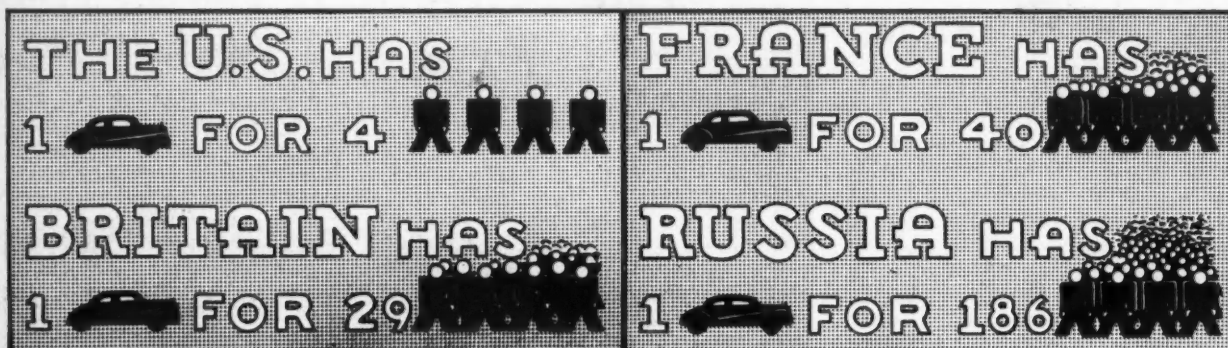
—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.



NURSING offers good vocational opportunities to young people

ACME

The Story of the Week



THE UNITED STATES has more cars in comparison with its population than has any other major nation

Debate in Congress

As the Marshall Plan for European Recovery is being considered in Congress, senators and representatives are studying and debating a number of questions, among which are the following:

1. Will the Marshall Plan lead to still higher prices in this country? There is already such a great demand for most foods and goods that people bid against one another for them, thus pushing prices up. If we send large additional quantities of our products to Europe, will we not intensify our inflation problem at home?

Supporters of the Marshall Plan admit that prices may be pushed a little higher as a result of sending more goods abroad. They point out, however, that even if the Marshall Plan is adopted, the amount of products shipped to Europe will be small in comparison to the quantity consumed here at home. Thus, they say, our prices will not be very much affected, if at all, by increased delivery of goods abroad.

2. Shouldn't we get military bases



GETTING READY for the presidential campaign. Manufacturers are designing buttons for the leading candidates. Take your choice!

from Europe as part payment for the aid which we are asked to give under the Marshall Plan? Some members of Congress feel that we should. Others say that if we make such a request, many foreigners will believe the Russian accusation that the Marshall Plan is simply a device for American imperialism and power.

3. Why send equipment such as farm machinery to Europe when it is particularly scarce in this country? The answer given to this question is that our nation, as compared to Europe and the rest of the world, is rich in such equipment. Europe cannot get on a self-supporting basis until it has sufficient agricultural and industrial machinery to supply its needs.

4. Wouldn't this program be car-

ried out more efficiently if a group of American businessmen were placed in charge of it rather than the State Department? A number of Congressmen answer "yes" to this question. Others feel that the Marshall Plan is an important part of our foreign policy, and that it would be a serious mistake to have any group or agency other than the State Department administer it.

These are some of the more important issues which Congress must decide upon.

Crisis in India

As we go to press, the full consequences of Mohandas Gandhi's assassination are not yet possible to determine. The world is waiting to see the outcome of the 78-year-old Hindu leader's death at the hands of a member of his own religious group. Whatever happens, the violent act reveals the bitter difference of opinion among the Hindus themselves. They are divided into two groups, and whether or not India is plunged into full-scale civil war may depend upon which of these groups has its way.

If the Hindu followers of Gandhi keep the upper hand, there is some hope of peace in India. As was pointed out in last week's AMERICAN OBSERVER, Gandhi taught those who followed him never to resort to violence, whatever their grievance. Up to the very last, he sought to bring the Moslems and Hindus together on a peaceful basis.

If the extremist Hindus get control, however, there may be bloody warfare throughout India between Moslems and Hindus. The extremists have consistently urged a "holy war" against the Moslems. Gandhi was killed because he opposed this group.

What the future of the 350 million Indian people will be—war or peace—may be determined even by the time this paper reaches its readers. If the situation becomes critical, the United Nations, which has already arranged to send an investigating group both to Hindu India and Moslem Pakistan, may have to take emergency action.

Wallace's Influence

The outcome of a Gallup Poll strengthens the belief of some political observers that Henry Wallace—although not getting many votes himself—may play a decisive role in the presidential election. Recently, selected voters throughout the country told the Gallup Poll how they would vote today in an election in which President Truman represented the Democrats, Wallace was a third party nominee, and either Dewey or Taft

was the choice of the Republicans.

The results showed that in either case Wallace received no more than 10 per cent of the votes while President Truman led both Taft and Dewey. However, the poll also showed that Mr. Wallace had enough influence in New York state to win many votes from President Truman and allow Dewey to win the state.

Many observers consider this a significant fact, for New York with its large population carries more weight than any other single state in a presidential election. Only once in the past 50 years has a candidate succeeded in becoming President without having the backing of New York state. That was in 1916 when Woodrow Wilson lost in New York but collected enough votes in other states to win the election and become Chief Executive.

Campaign Buttons

One group in America has no doubts about "winning" in the 1948 elections. The business firms that manufacture and sell campaign buttons are already making plans for a big, prosperous season.

These companies are, of course, non-partisan, that is, they sell buttons to both the Democrats and the Republicans. At least one firm sent out advertising last month. To the Democratic National Committee it sent drawings of "Truman for President" buttons. Sketches delivered to the Republicans showed the names of several possible candidates, including Dewey, Taft, and Stassen.

According to a price list published by the same company, campaign buttons will cost \$12.90 per 100, or \$171 for an order of 10,000.

Voice of America

Although Congress is looking for ways to trim the cost of government, members are in agreement that more money should be spent on telling the rest of the world about the United States and its people. Already a bill has been passed extending the State Department program for giving information to foreign lands through libraries, radio broadcasts, and other means. Funds have not yet been appropriated, but indications are that Congress will be generous in financing this program.

Last year Congress voted to cut the amount of money that was being spent to tell other countries about America. It was felt there was little need for the United States government to send news about this country abroad. Only a small amount of money was provided for government broadcasts

and other informational activities.

Later in the year many lawmakers traveled abroad. They learned that the United States was losing the "war of words" with Russia. People of other countries were either receiving little news about the United States or were being given false information. The Russians were frequently blaming the United States for the ills of the world, and were taking every opportunity to find fault with the democratic way of life.

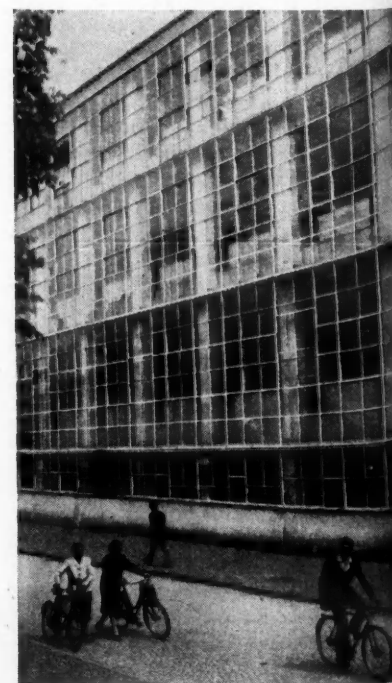
Most members of Congress therefore want the United States to do a better job of sending news abroad, both in broadcasts and in publications. They are especially anxious that we let the world know how much we are spending and doing to help other lands recover from the war.

Russia and the Nazis

The United States and Russia are stepping up their bitter verbal attacks against each other. The Soviet government undoubtedly was embarrassed by America's recent publication of secret agreements made in 1939 by Germany and Russia. In these treaties, which American troops discovered in Germany at the end of the war, the two dictatorships had agreed to divide eastern Europe between themselves.

The U. S. State Department, through its "Voice of America" radio programs, has been telling in many languages the story of the German-Soviet treaties. American officials feel that this news will show the people of eastern Europe that Russia is not, as she pretends to be, their friend.

Those who criticize the State Department for publishing these documents believe that this action will do more harm than good—that it will greatly increase the already bad feeling between Russia and America. The reply is made that Russia has carried on a constant campaign of false and unfair criticism against the United States, and that the time has come for us to discredit her. If we strike hard at her on the propaganda front,



A TYPEWRITER PLANT in Ivrea, Italy. The Italian people are making a great effort to revive their war-shattered industry.



HAWAIIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS talk with Judge Carl Wimberly, representative of a U. S. Subcommittee, about statehood for the islands. They ask students on the mainland to write telling how they feel about admitting Hawaii to the Union.

it is said, she will learn that two can play the game, and there is at least a possibility she will let up on her attacks against us.

Snapshot Contest

A snapshot competition for high school students—the Third Annual National High School Photographic Awards—is now under way. Sponsored by the Eastman Kodak Company, the competition offers 361 prizes totaling \$3,500 in cash. All entries must be submitted by May 7.

Contestants may enter black-and-white prints in any or all of five classes. The classes include school projects, people, scenes, animals, and babies and small children. A first prize of \$100 will be awarded in each class. One of the first prize winners will also receive the \$500 Grand Prize.

Students wishing to compete should obtain a rules folder and entry blank from their high school or from their photographic dealer. Entries are to be submitted to the National High School Photographic Awards, 343 State Street, Rochester 4, N. Y.

Appeal for Children

The United Nations Appeal for Children is now in progress in 44 countries. Contributions will go to aid the sick and starving children of Europe and the Far East. In the United States the UN hopes to raise 60 million dollars during its February drive.

In Europe and the Far East it is estimated that there are some 70 million children who are in urgent need of foods, medicines, and vaccines. There are probably an additional 100 million whom the war left in bad condition, both physically and mentally. The present drive aims to rehabilitate these "lost youth."

Milk will be the first major purchase made with the funds raised in the present campaign. After that, the UN group will try to furnish medicines and foods that are rich in fats and proteins. The sponsoring organization hopes that everyone will contribute a day's pay or the equivalent in gifts or crops. The success of the UN appeal can go far toward saving an entire generation of youth for future usefulness and responsibility.

Hawaiian Statehood

Students at Kaimuki High School in Honolulu, Hawaii, are learning the workings of democracy at first hand. They are taking an active part in trying to get Hawaii admitted to the Union. On their own initiative, a group of seven students recently appeared before Judge Carl Wimberly, a representative of the U. S. Senate Subcommittee which is now considering the possibility of Hawaii's becoming our 49th state.

According to reports in a Honolulu newspaper, the students made a "tremendous impression" on Judge Wimberly. Their appearance followed class discussions of the problem and student balloting on the proposed change. By making their opinions known and try-

ing to influence others, these students are showing that they understand the machinery of democracy—and how much power an individual may have.

These Hawaiian students have recently written THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, saying, "We should appreciate the opinions of your readers on our aspirations for statehood." Address letters to Mary Seichi, Senior Class Secretary, Kaimuki High School, 631 18th Ave., Honolulu 14, Hawaii.

Acids which are so powerful that they eat away glass have had to be stored in gold, platinum, or wax containers. Recently, a strong glass which does not contain sand has been perfected. The glass is not dissolved by the powerful acids used in making rubber, or in atomic experiments.

Our Readers Say—

After reading the article on Canada in this paper, I came to the conclusion that we are not taking advantage of the possibilities for trade between Canada and the United States. It seems to me that the governments of the two countries should appoint experts to study these possibilities. The findings of such men might lead to the removal of many stumbling-blocks that have hindered trade between the nations.

BILL POWELL,
Fort Smith, Arkansas.

I really liked Graham Finney's idea of what America means. I would like to add that twice within the last half century this freedom train has been derailed. Both times thousands of passengers got off, some never to get back; but those that got off, gave us the right to keep on riding on the train. Some foreigners, called Communists, are toying with the signals and switches, trying to stop or wreck the train. If we accept our responsibilities, though, the train will rumble on, whistling the "Star Spangled Banner."

DORIS RUTH RICE,
Ethel, Missouri.

I think the commission appointed by President Truman is absolutely correct in urging free public education for the first two years after high school, and in urging the lowering of tuition fees in colleges. There are many deserving students in this country who have little money for college, and many of them have to discontinue their education when they are capable of going on.

BETTY JANE ALBERT,
Mt. Vernon, New York.

I think the United States is doing a wonderful job in helping Greece. We should remember that it was the Greeks who established the principles of democracy that are today the pride of our own country. When we help Greece we are doing a little to repay our indebtedness to that country.

LORRAINE N. GIAMEOS,
McKeesport, Pennsylvania.

The political plight of the residents of Washington, D. C., is appalling. The right of the ballot constitutes the basis of any democracy, the backbone of our democratic government. This fundamental right is being denied the citizens of our country's capital. May the new year bring them the privilege of the ballot!

HOWARD GALPER,
Oak Park, Illinois.

(Address letters to this column to THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.)



Study Guide

Military Officers

1. Name two fields other than government, in which it is felt by some people that military influence may become a danger.

2. Those who oppose having military men in high civilian posts claim that professional soldiers are trained for a kind of discipline and unquestioning obedience that is harmful in civilian life. Do you or do you not agree with this point of view? Explain your position.

3. The *Christian Science Monitor* argues that the President has had to turn to the military field in seeking men to fill civilian posts because qualified civilians will not accept the jobs at salaries the government pays. What do you think of this argument?

4. Columnist Ernest Lindley and Major General Manton say that professional Army and Navy men have the same background in American ideals of democracy that the civilians have. What is your feeling on this point?

5. Do you or do you not think that our democratic principles are endangered by the appointment of a considerable number of military officers to high government posts? Give reasons for your answer.

Europe

1. What is the probable reason for Russia's opposing a federation of nations in eastern Europe?

2. What statesman recently advocated a "Western Union" of nations? Which nations might be included in such a federation?

3. Tell of some of the benefits which might be derived from a united Western Europe.

4. Why did the French government recently devalue the franc?

5. Why are Britain and certain other European nations worried over the action taken by France?

6. True or false: In cheapening her currency, France acted with the approval of the World Bank and World Money Fund.

7. What are some of the consequences of the devaluation?

Discussion

1. Do you believe that Mr. Bevin's plan for a "Western Union" of nations would help keep the peace, or would it be a step toward war? Explain your answer.

2. In your opinion, is there any hope of an eventual "United States of Europe?"

Miscellaneous

1. How, according to a recent Gallup Poll, may Henry Wallace influence the Presidential election?

2. Why did our government publish the terms of the secret agreements which were entered into some years ago by the Russians and German Nazis?

3. What influenced many of our lawmakers to vote in favor of sending more news abroad about this country?

4. Into what position will General Eisenhower step after retiring as Army Chief of Staff?

5. About how long has Mackenzie King been Prime Minister of Canada?

6. For what kind of manufactured products is Switzerland famous?

7. How did John Quincy Adams take an active part in the government after he had retired from the Presidency?

8. List at least two questions in connection with the Marshall Plan on which Congress must decide.

9. What special appeal is the United Nations now making?

10. How are Hawaiian students demonstrating their understanding of democracy?

Bevin Plan for Uniting Nations of Western Europe

(Concluded from page 1)

ders, the eastern European nations have, to a large extent, shut themselves off from western Europe and the United States. They are trading chiefly among themselves and with Russia, though there is some commerce with the western nations.

The same week that Dimitrov raised the question of an eastern European union, Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Minister, advocated what he called a "Western Union." He suggested that Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxemburg should form an economic union which would enable them to work more closely together. The Bevin plan leaves the way open for Italy, Portugal, Greece, and perhaps other countries, including the British, American, and French zones of Germany, to come into the union later.

A federation of this kind would seek to accomplish the following results:

(a) *Break down trade barriers.* These barriers now make commerce among the nations very difficult. Tariff walls are erected around each country. When goods are sent from one nation to another, high duties must be paid. This discourages international trade. The trade barriers stand in the way of reconstruction. It will be very hard for the nations to restore prosperity so long as it is difficult to ship goods across national lines.

(b) *Control the currencies of the nations within the group.* When the money of a country changes rapidly in value, the welfare and prosperity of other nations may be affected. France's recent action in "cheapening" her money, for example, may hurt other countries. The currency problem will be discussed later in this article.

(c) *Work together in dealing with international problems.* Certainly England, France, Italy, and other nations would be more effective in world affairs if they could get together and agree upon common policies. If they all work together, toward the same goal, they will be far more influential.

(d) *Provide a joint military defense.* The Bevin plan looks to the time when the nations of western Europe, under the leadership of Great Britain and France, will work together on problems of military defense. It is thought that Bevin has in mind a military alliance with the western European nations—a protective measure in case the UN fails to maintain peace.

As matters stand today, the United States and Russia are far more powerful than any other nations. No other country approaches these two in strength. If, however, the nations of western Europe should follow the Bevin idea, and should join together in a federation, this new union, if its members work closely together, would approach the power of the United States and Russia. The United Kingdom, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Italy have a population of 160 million. This compares with America's 140 million and Russia's 200 million (approximately).

These population figures do not take into account the overseas dominions or possessions. If an economic and military alliance should be formed

among the western nations, it is probable that all the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations would participate in the arrangement. This would bring in Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries. A union or federation of the western European countries, together with their overseas associates, might be very powerful if its members worked harmoniously together.

It is the general opinion, however, that an effective union of the western nations—something like a United States of Western Europe—is still far off. It will be hard to get the separate nations to agree on common policies. In many cases, the interests of the nations will be in conflict.

No sooner had Foreign Minister Bevin announced his plan for an eco-

A dollar at that time was worth 119 francs, so the cars would have cost \$1,407 each. The American buyer knew that he could go to England and purchase Austins for about the same price, so he decided to buy them instead of the Renaults.

Then came the devaluation program. The French government "cheapened" the franc. It provided that a dollar would exchange for 214 francs instead of 119. As a result, the American dealer can now buy Renaults for almost half the price that he could before. The cars are still priced at 167,500 francs, but this amount of French money can now be obtained for only \$783 instead of \$1,407.

Similarly, a dress that would have cost an American tourist \$100 before the devaluation of the franc would,

French cars at the same price will now find that they can buy the Renault with about half as many dollars as an Austin costs.

This is a good illustration of the fact that an economic policy which helps one nation may hurt another. If Prime Minister Bevin can persuade the countries of Europe to form an economic union, the nations which join will have to give up the right to change the value of their money in the way the French are changing theirs.

It will be very hard, however, to get nations to give up economic weapons of that kind. When countries are in a desperate situation, they are likely to try to improve their position in whatever way they can, even though their actions injure others.

As a matter of fact, France is a member of the World Bank and World Money Fund, agencies working with the UN, and no member of these organizations is supposed to reduce the value of its currency without permission. But the French leaders took their action without obtaining approval. So while a plan such as Bevin proposes could accomplish a great deal of good, it will not be easy to adopt.

Geography Made Easy

Go into a store which sells cloth and you can get a lesson in geography, says the National Geographic Society. This is possible, for many of the names we have given to dry goods are identical or similar to the names of the cities which first produced the textiles.

Worsted came from the English town of the same name. However, the town spells its name *Worstead*. *Tweed*, a woolen material, is woven in towns along England's river *Tweed*. The Belgian city of *Duffel* gave its name to the tough fabric used in making the bags which so many campers use.

Cities and provinces in India and the Near East have lent their names to fabrics, too, although in many cases the spelling has been somewhat changed. Wool from Kashmir, India, was made into the first *cashmere* shawls. The Indian port of Calicut manufactured the first of the cloth we know as *calico*. From Damascus, Syria, we got our first *damask*, while the Egyptian town of *Damietta* gave us *dimitry*.

Under the Channel

The idea of digging a tunnel under the English Channel to connect France and Great Britain is again up for discussion. Representatives of the two countries recently met and talked over the possibility of building an underwater tube. No final decision was made, but the matter is still being considered.

A plan for a tunnel under the English Channel came up at the time of Napoleon, but it was dropped. In 1882 construction of such a tunnel actually got under way. Shafts were sunk on the French coast and in the white cliffs of Dover. At this point the Channel is about 20 miles wide. From each shaft construction crews dug out for more than a mile. However, the British Parliament feared that completion of the project might open the way to an armed invasion, and work was stopped. It has never been resumed.



ERNEST BEVIN, foreign minister of Great Britain, is urging that the nations of western Europe unite

nomic union of western Europe than a sharp conflict of interests between Great Britain and France developed. This conflict came up in connection with the French government's devaluation of the French franc. We shall not undertake to describe the entire complicated devaluation issue, but here are certain central facts about it:

Recently French prices have been very high, so high that foreigners were not buying many French goods. French industries, which depend upon the sale of their products in foreign countries, are in a serious plight. So the French Premier, Robert Schuman, recently decided upon a remedy which can be explained in this way:

When a foreigner buys French goods, he pays for them not in francs but in the currency of his own country. For example, suppose that, before the franc was devalued, an American dealer went to France to buy some small automobiles. He looked at the Renaults and found that they were priced at 167,500 francs.

after devaluation, cost but about \$56. Other products are likewise reduced in value.

It is expected that the cutting of the value of the franc will cause foreigners to buy more French goods because they can exchange their money for larger numbers of francs and can hence buy more products.

Of course, it may be that after awhile the price of French goods in terms of francs will go up. If there is a greatly increased demand for French products, prices will be pushed up by competitive buying. If this happens, the Renault will no longer sell for 167,500 francs. It may soon cost much more than that, and other French goods may quickly rise in price. For some time, however, foreigners will be able to buy more cheaply in France than was the case before devaluation.

While this will help the French it may hurt the British. The Americans who bought Austin automobiles in England instead of purchasing

Straight Thinking

By Clay Coss

AN illustration of honest and informed thinking was furnished recently by the *Louisville Courier-Journal*. That paper commented editorially on an organization known as the "National Council Against Conscriptio," one of the leaders of which is Albert Einstein.

The Einstein group published a report which opposes universal military training and also the appointment of large numbers of military men to civilian offices. The *Courier-Journal* does not agree with these ideas, but it does not toss them aside without consideration. It adopts a reasonable course in taking its position.

In the first place the *Courier-Journal* editor found out what the anti-conscriptio organization was saying. He did not follow the common practice of ignoring arguments he did not like. He examined all that the report said.

The editor then knew what the arguments were. He understood what the other side had to say. He studied the report to see what useful facts or opinions he might find in it. He did not assume that it was all wrong.



Through his open-minded study, the editor found "food for thought."

The Einstein report is highly controversial, and many Americans disagree with all or most of its conclusions. I am not saying that it is a good or bad report. I am merely commending the *Courier-Journal* editor for reading and studying arguments contrary to his own beliefs. By doing so, his ideas may have been altered in certain respects, and where his goals remained the same, he was in a position to work toward them more effectively.

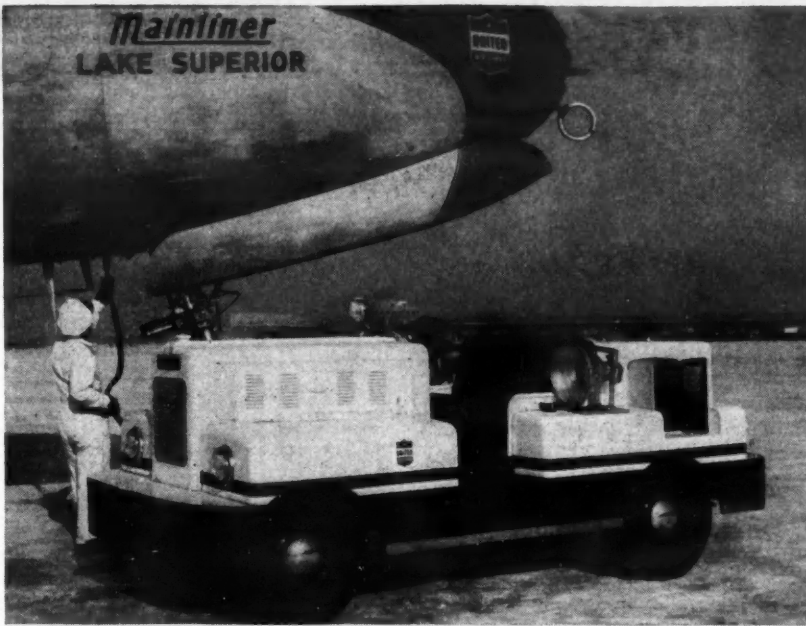
Too many people completely close their minds when they read what an opponent says. A wise man will learn all he can from every possible source.

Building Friendship

The United States is now sponsoring 30 schools in Latin America to promote understanding between this country and the lands south of the Rio Grande. Students learn the English language and attend classes in American history, literature, music, art, and folklore. Many of them hope to use their knowledge in visiting the United States. By showing these students how we live, our government feels that the Good Neighbor Policy can be effectively strengthened.

At present the schools are partially financed by the State Department, but it is hoped that in the future they will become self-supporting. Institutes are established in most of the capital cities of Latin American countries as well as in certain other large centers.

Most of the schools have been set up in recent years. The oldest one dates back to 1929. It was set up by natives of Argentina who were interested in promoting friendship between that country and our own.



POWER ON THE GROUND. This mobile power plant can generate 1,000 amperes of electric power. The unit was designed by United Air Lines. It supplies all power needs of planes while they are on the ground, and can be used to tow the liners.

Science in the News

VARIOUS studies conducted in South America show that dried coffee pulp can be used in feeding dairy cattle. When mixed with other products, such as banana leaves and molasses, the pulp becomes a satisfactory food for livestock. In tropical countries where corn or other feeds are scarce, this will be a valuable and important discovery.

According to one expert, 1948 is going to be a big year for sunspots. The unusual sky phenomena are really hurricanes around the sun. Many people think that they affect the weather, the growth of crops, and even the world's economic condition, although there is no proof for these theories. However, it is true that our radio reception and transoceanic communication systems will be affected by the sunspots.

A germ which has been named V14A by scientists is one of the causes of the common cold. The germ has been isolated by experimenters, and is being kept alive and growing in a laboratory at the National Institute of Health in Washington, D. C. When sprayed into the noses of healthy persons who had volunteered as human "guinea pigs," the germ caused the

persons to catch colds in a short time. The job before the scientists now will be to find a substance that can fight this germ.

A special type of glass has been developed which is "photosensitive." An ordinary photo negative is placed on the glass, and exposed to ultraviolet light. Then the glass is placed in a special oven and baked at high temperatures. This causes the picture to be permanently printed in the glass. The photos can be made in a wide variety of colors.

Chemists in the United States Department of Agriculture have developed a kind of candy which can be eaten in large quantities without bad effects. A tasteless protein, derived from soybeans, is added to the candy to make it a well-balanced food.

The Navy will search for an unusual animal in Africa called the "jumping shrew." This creature is one of the few mammals, outside of man, which has malaria naturally. Blood samples from the shrew will enable doctors to transmit the disease to laboratory animals such as rats, so that malaria can be studied further by the scientists.

—By HAZEL LEWIS.

Your Vocabulary

In each of the sentences below match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 8, column 4.

1. The country often had *iniquitous* (in-ik'wi-tus) leaders. (a) unjust and wicked (b) clever (c) ambitious (d) extremely strong.

2. The factory was given a *lackadaisical* (lack-a-day'zi-call) inspection. (a) thorough (b) indifferent (c) regular (d) systematic.

3. That was an interesting *anecdote* (an'ek-dot) we just heard. (a) stage play (b) story (c) comparison (d) idea.

4. The situation in the town was

deplorable (de-plor'uh-bl). (a) dangerous (b) unavoidable (c) regrettable (d) peaceful.

5. It was an *ostentatious* (os-ten-ta'shus) exhibition. (a) showy (b) unusual (c) interesting (d) rural.

6. The *effrontery* (ef-frun'ter-i) of his remarks angered his audience. (a) boldness (b) violence (c) falsity (d) stupidity.

7. A *capricious* (ka-preesh'us) person is: (a) steady and sedate (b) unsteady (c) prejudiced (d) humorous (e) tyrannical.

8. There was *spasmodic* (spaz-mod'ik) fighting along the border. (a) reluctant (b) serious (c) irregular (d) uninterrupted.

Monthly Test

Note to teachers. This test covers the issues of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER for January 12, 19, 26, and February 2. The answer key appears in this week's issue of *The Civic Leader*.

Directions for students. After the corresponding number on your answer sheet for each of the following items, write "true" if the statement is true, and "false" if the statement is false.

1. Norway has made rapid progress in recovering from the effects of World War II.

2. President Truman recently recommended to Congress that the taxes paid by large business corporations be reduced.

3. The government of Panama has agreed to let the United States keep all its wartime air bases in that country for the protection of the Panama Canal in the future.

4. Henry Wallace has announced that he will run for the Presidency this year on a "third party" ticket.

5. Before World War II, Romania had one of the most democratic governments in Europe.

6. Most of the people in Canada live within a narrow strip along the U. S. border.

7. The UN Security Council is composed of five permanent members and six non-permanent members.

8. Russia is somewhat smaller than the United States in both population and area.

9. New Zealand is a self-governing dominion within the British Empire.

10. According to the universal military training plans now before Congress, young men could take part of their military training while attending college.

11. Most farm families in Russia live in villages and work on collective farms.

12. The Canadian government recently decided not to restore price controls on meat and butter.

For each of the following questions and incomplete statements, write the number of the correct answer on your answer sheet.

1. Why are the people of Canada now buying fewer products from the United States? (1) Prices in the United States are too high. (2) Canada does not have enough dollars to pay for large quantities of U. S. products. (3) The United States is shipping all its surplus goods to Europe. (4) The population of Canada is rapidly decreasing.

2. According to the budget submitted to Congress by President Truman last month, most of the money to be spent by the U. S. government during the coming fiscal year is for (1) veterans' pensions and other benefits, (2) aid to European countries under the Marshall Plan, (3) expenses of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, (4) interest on the public debt.

3. The federal government collects most of its income from what kind of taxes? (1) Income and corporation taxes. (2) Excise taxes on tobacco, liquor, and amusements. (3) Tariffs on imported goods. (4) Social security taxes paid by workers and employers.

4. What conclusion did the President's Air Policy Commission reach with regard to the strength of our Air Force? (1) The United States will be in no danger of attack for at least 10 years. (2) Our nation is not at present well prepared to defend itself against air attacks. (3) We do not need a large Air Force because the United Nations will keep the peace. (4) Building a large American air force would probably lead to war.

5. Why did King Michael recently give up the throne of Romania? (1) He was not popular with the Romanian people. (2) He was opposed by the Communists. (3) He had no interest in the welfare of his people. (4) He tired of his official duties.

(Continued on next page)

Monthly Test

(Continued from page 7)

6. What is the reason for the present shortage of oil and gasoline in the United States? (1) Lack of sufficient equipment for transporting oil and gasoline from the refineries to the consumers. (2) We do not have enough refineries to meet the heavy demand for fuel oil in the winter. (3) Our nation's oil wells can no longer supply our needs. (4) Other nations have refused to sell oil to the United States.

7. Which of the following men has stated that he is not a candidate for the Republican nomination for President? (1) Harold E. Stassen, (2) Robert A. Taft, (3) Dwight D. Eisenhower, (4) Thomas E. Dewey.

Identify the following persons who are prominent in the news. Choose the proper description for each person from the list given below. Write the capital letter which precedes that description opposite the number of the person to whom it applies.

1. W. Stuart Symington
2. Lewis Douglas
3. Ana Pauker
4. Warren Austin
5. Harold Stassen
6. David E. Lilienthal
7. Mohandas Gandhi
8. Josef Stalin
9. Bernard Baruch
- A. U. S. ambassador to Great Britain
- B. Communist leader in Romania
- C. Chairman of U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
- D. Former Governor of Minnesota who is a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination
- E. British Prime Minister
- F. U. S. representative at meetings of the UN "Little Assembly."
- G. Secretary of the U. S. Department of the Air Force
- H. Recently assassinated Hindu leader in India
- I. Head of the Russian government
- J. President of France
- K. A trusted adviser to several American Presidents

In each of the following items, select the word or phrase which most nearly defines the word in *italics* and write its letter on your answer sheet.

1. The treaty was finally *abrogated*. (a) ratified, (b) enforced, (c) criticized, (d) canceled.
2. The officer was *adamant* in dealing with the situation. (a) stupid, (b) unyielding, (c) sympathetic, (d) unwise.
3. The book was a *diatribe* against the press. (a) intelligent criticism, (b) bitter discussion, (c) humorous analysis, (d) legal attack.
4. The *indigence* of the people was appalling. (a) ignorance, (b) industry, (c) poverty, (d) wealth.
5. His arguments were *fallacious*. (a) well-founded, (b) misleading and deceitful, (c) obvious, (d) very convincing.
6. A *vigilant* guard stood near the door. (a) well-armed, (b) sleepy, (c) alert, (d) powerful.

Answer each of the following questions directly on your answer sheet.

1. What famous event in the history of California occurred 100 years ago?
2. Fighting in what country today is being compared to the civil war in Spain during the 1930's?
3. What are the two largest oil-producing regions of the world outside the Western Hemisphere?
4. Congress is again considering plans for making what North American river navigable for ocean-going ships?

American Presidents - - John Quincy Adams

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, from the days of his childhood, had an opportunity such as few boys enjoy of becoming acquainted with the world and with the problems of politics. He was eight years old when the Revolutionary War began, and his family lived in Boston in the thick of the conflict. His father was one of the original leaders of the independence movement and spent much time in Philadelphia promoting the cause of the colonists.

When John Adams went to Europe to seek aid for the colonies, he took John Quincy, then 11 years of age, along with him. Young Adams spent several years in Europe, then came back for his formal education at Harvard.

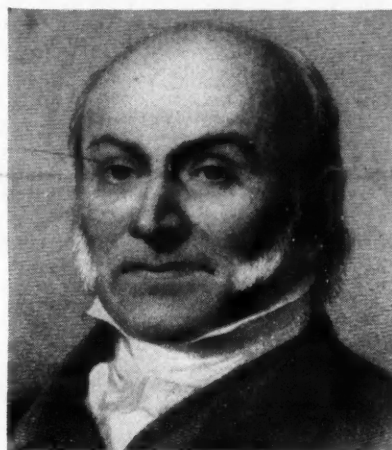
John Quincy was a hard worker, a wide reader, and a profound thinker. He was well acquainted with the government and with national leaders. But one thing this brilliant young man lacked—he had not associated much, when he was a boy, with others of his age. He had not taken part in the rough-and-tumble of life, which alone helps one to understand other people, to cooperate with them, and appreciate their desires. This gap in his education was a decided weakness when Adams got into politics.

President Washington appointed John Quincy Adams to be American minister to Holland when the young man was but 27 years of age. Soon thereafter, John Quincy's father, John Adams, became President, and appointed his son to be minister to Russia. He did this at Washington's request.

Later, after John Adams was out of the Presidency, John Quincy came back to the United States, served in the United States Senate for Massachusetts, and became President Monroe's Secretary of State. His wide experi-

ence in Europe, together with his broad learning, superbly qualified him for this position. He conducted the country's foreign relations ably and, more than anyone else, was responsible for working out the Monroe Doctrine.

In 1824 he was one of four candidates for the Presidency. Andrew Jackson received more votes but did not have a majority of the electoral votes. The election, therefore, went to



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, sixth President

the House of Representatives. John Quincy Adams was chosen President and served one term.

One of the big issues of the Adams administration was the disposal of the public lands. At that time there was a surge of population westward and a great demand that the lands owned by the government be turned over to private individuals. Adams thought that if these lands were passed out unwisely, the strong and selfish groups of the population would gain control of them and exploit the resources, giving little or no thought to the public welfare.

If Adams had been an understanding and forceful leader, he might have con-

vinced the voters of the wisdom of his ideas, but he was not. Living conditions were bad for many city people, and they were determined to obtain land from the government and become successful farmers. President Adams did not want to give them the land, and he didn't have a program to improve their situation, so they looked elsewhere for leadership. As in many other cases, Adams displayed vision, but his plans were defeated by a lack of political leadership.

After John Quincy Adams was defeated for reelection, he was chosen from a Massachusetts district to the House of Representatives, a position which he held until, at the age of 81, he dropped unconscious in his seat in the House, and died after being carried into the Speaker's room.

Demand for Cars

It is estimated that the nation's automobile industry still has unfilled orders for at least 6 million cars. Even though the war has been over for about 2½ years, the demand for new cars is so great that manufacturers are running far behind in their efforts to keep up with it.

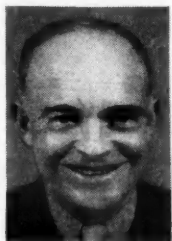
The automobile plants of the country are now just about completely converted back to peacetime production. If there are no work stoppages, the industry believes that this year it may be able to top its record output of 1929. In that year of peak production, more than 5 million cars and trucks were made.

Answers to Vocabulary Test

1. (a) unjust and wicked; 2. (b) indifferent; 3. (b) story; 4. (c) regrettable; 5. (a) showy; 6. (a) boldness; 7. (b) unsteady; 8. (c) irregular.

Personalities in the News

GENERAL Dwight Eisenhower will take a brief rest before stepping into his new position as president of Columbia University. One of the most popular men in public life, the 57-year-old general was a top choice of many Americans for President of



Eisenhower

the United States before his recent announcement that he did not wish to run for the office. He is scheduled to retire as Army Chief of Staff this month.

Although born in Texas, General Eisenhower was brought up in Abilene, Kansas. In high school he did well in his studies and was a star football player. He worked nights and summers at a creamery. After graduating, he decided on a military career. At West Point he made a good, although not brilliant, record. Commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry, Eisenhower was first assigned to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. His ability as a teacher prevented him—much to his disgust—from getting overseas in World War I. During the twenties

and thirties his career followed the typical pattern of the army officer in peacetime. He served at various posts and attended special Army schools.

When World War II came, Eisenhower's exceptional ability and thorough training brought him rapid advancement. As head of the Allied forces in Europe, he led in making the crushing defeat of the German army. In 1945 he succeeded General Marshall as Chief of Staff.

General and Mrs. Eisenhower will soon move to New York. They have one son, who is also an Army officer. General Eisenhower's West Point classmate, Omar Bradley, succeeds him as Chief of Staff.

★ ★ ★

Mackenzie King, Canada's Prime Minister for more than 20 years, is planning to retire this summer. The 73-year-old statesman has directed the affairs of his country longer than the leader of any other important democratic nation in the world. He has asked that his successor as head of Canada's Liberal Party be chosen soon. Presumably the person selected for that position will also become Prime Minister.

Born in Kitchener, Ontario, King received his name from his grand-

father, William Mackenzie, who led a rebellion against Queen Victoria in 1837. King attended Toronto University and did additional study at Harvard and the University of Chicago. He traveled in Europe on a fellowship, and worked for a time under the direction of the famous social worker, Jane Addams, at Chicago's Hull House.



King

In 1908 Mr. King was made Canada's first Minister of Labor, and in 1921 was chosen Prime Minister. Except for a few months in 1926 and the period from 1930 to 1935, he has been Canada's Prime Minister ever since.

Mr. King has several outstanding achievements to his credit. He has done remarkably well in getting opposing groups to work together for the common good. Under his guidance the independence of Canada within the British Commonwealth has been worked out. He has also been a good friend of the United States, and has helped to promote still closer relations between the two countries.

—By HOWARD O. SWEET.